

## Message Text

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ACTION EUR-08

INFO OCT-01 SS-14 ISO-00 INR-07 SP-02 PRS-01 RSC-01 SR-02

ORM-01 L-01 IO-03 PM-03 /044 W

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P R 101112Z JAN 75

FM AMEMBASSY SOFIA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 9086

AMEMBASSY ATHENS PRIORITY

INFO AMEMBASSY ANKARA

AMEMBASSY BELGRADE

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY NICOSIA

C O N F I D E N T I A L SOFIA 0067

LIMDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, BU, GR

SUBJECT: GREEK FOREIGN MINISTER'S VISIT TO SOFIA

REF: SOFIA 0065

1. AT GREEK EMBASSY RECEPTION JAN 9 BITSIOS TOOK ME ASIDE TO PROLONG CONVERSATION ABOUT HIS VISIT HERE, AND PROBABLY ALSO TO SHOW TO THE BULGARIAN GUESTS THAT HE SINGLED OUT AMERICAN AMBASSADOR FOR FRIENDLY TREATMENT. HE SAID HE WAS PLEASED ABOUT NEWS FROM WASHINGTON REGARDING NEGOTIATIONS WITH TURKS AND LOOKS FORWARD TO HIS DISCUSSION TOMORROW WITH JACK KUBISCH OF WHOM HE HAS VERY HIGH OPINION.

2. ABOUT THE VISIT HERE, BITSIOS SAID HE IS "IMPRESSED WITH BULGARIAN SINCERITY IN WISHING TO EXPAND AND DEEPEN RELATIONS". TAKEN TOGETHER WITH SIMILAR ATTITUDE ON THE PART OF YUGOSLAVS (HE REFERRED TO CONVERSATIONS WITH MILOS MINIC) IT IS CLEAR THERE IS "A NEW SPIRIT IN THE BALKANS AND THE ONLY ONES WHO ARE OUT OF STEP WITH THAT SPIRIT ARE THE TURKS."

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3. I ASKED IF THE BULGARIANS HAD RAISED RETURN OF GREEK COMMUNIST REFUGEES RESIDING HERE. BITSIOS SAID THEY HAD NOT, NOR DID HE EXPECT THE MATTER WOULD COME UP SINCE BULGARIANS ARE AVOIDING ANYTHING THAT COULD BECLOUD THE DISCUSSIONS. NO AGREEMENTS WILL BE SIGNED, ONLY A COMMUNIQUE. (GREEK AMBASSADOR SAID LATER THERE WILL ALSO BE EXCHANGE OF LETTERS ON EXPANSION OF CULTURAL RELATIONS.)

4. I ASKED IF MLADENOV'S REFERENCE TO RETURN OF CYPRUS REFUGEES TO THEIR HOMES "WITH GUARANTEE OF THEIR SECURITY" WAS NEW, AND BITSIOS SAID YES, THIS IS MORE SPECIFIC THAN WHAT BULGARIANS HAVE BEEN SAYING SO FAR. WHEN I REMARKED THAT BULGARIANS SEEM CONCERNED ALSO TO MAINTAIN GOOD RELATIONS WITH TURKEY, BITSIOS ACKNOWLEDGED THIS BUT SAID THE GOB HAS THE KIND OF BACKING THAT ALLOWS IT TO FACE UP TO THE TURKS.  
HERZ

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## Message Attributes

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